Steps to promote handicrafts

2876. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether government has taken any step to promote handicrafts in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is aware that a large number of handicraft industries have been closed;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the steps taken by Government to revive the handicraft industries particularly the closed units in the country; and

(f) the time by when these industries are likely to be reopened for production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. For promotion and development of handicrafts in the country, the Government is implementing various schemes during the 11th Five Year Plan, which include: Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana; Marketing Supper; and Services scheme; Design & Technology Upgradation Scheme; Handicrafts Artisans Welfare Scheme; Human Resource Development Scheme and Research & Development Scheme.

(c) to (f) No such information of handicrafts industries being closed, has come to the notice of the Government.

Knitwear technology mission

2877. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Knitwear Technology Mission has been set up;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether fund has been sought for the mission to prepare synthetic fibre; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) No Sir. The Knitwear Technology Mission is an industry-driven effort initiated in Tirupur with initial support of the Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC).

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Targets and achievements of TUFS

2878. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the targets and achievements of Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) for the handloom sector since its inception; and

(b) in the current financial year, how much amount was disbursed for handlooms and powerlooms under the TUFS, State-wise and district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No targets have been fixed for handloom sector. No release under the scheme has been made so far.

(b) No fund has been released for handloom under TUFS in the current financial year. Funds disbursed for powerloom sector under TUFS - 20% MMS for the current financial year, state-wise and district-wise as under:-

District/State	Amount disbursed (Rs. in lakh)
Thane/Maharashtra	4.94
Valsad/Gujarat	13.66
Total	18.60

Skill development mission

2879. SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is planning to launch Skill Development Mission to remove scarcity of skilled workers in organized sectors;

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the mission;

(c) whether this mission will create opportunity for lakhs of the workers of unorganized sectors and unemployed workers of the country to get specialized trainirg and get a chance of employment in the organized sectors of textiles industry; and

(d) whether there is any plan to associate National Institute of Fashion Technology with the mission for providing fashion designing skill to the trainees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Status of handloom cooperative in UP

2880. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR :
SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of handloom cooperatives, State-wise especially in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the financial assistance given to each cooperative in Uttar Pradesh during last three years, year-wise and cooperative-wise; and